

Presentations to the Board
May 31, 2007
Sundance Conference Room – Crowne Plaza Hotel
Billings, Montana

Board Members Attending: John Youngberg, Chairman
Marty Connell
Jim Davison
Paul Tuss

Others Attending: Dave Desch, Executive Director
Jane Todd, Program Specialist

I. Call to Order and Approve Board Minutes of May 3, 2006, Meeting

Chairman Youngberg called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Chairman Youngberg asked for additions or corrections to the minutes of the May 3, 2006, Board meeting. Dave Desch requested that a bullet point be added to #08-62 New Fluorescent Tools for Imaging Brain Structure and Function: “The Board liked the project because of the collaboration with Montana Neuroscience Institute and Montana State University”. Marty Connell moved to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2006, Board meeting as corrected. Paul Tuss seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

II. Preparation for Presentations & MTIP Proposal

A. Preparation for Presentations

John Youngberg summarized the procedure, purpose and format of the presentations. The intention is to hear 15-minute presentations and allow 15 minutes for questions from the Board, and by the end of the meeting, come to a consensus on which projects will likely be funded. Final decisions will be made at the next meeting on June 18th.

B. MTIP Proposal

The Board discussed a proposal to assist the Department’s Montana Technology Innovative Partnership (MTIP) program. Formerly the Small Business Innovation Outreach Program, MTIP engages in several activities which benefit MBRCT. These activities include making potential applicants aware of the existence and requirements of the MBRCT program, and advising potential applicants about their suitability for submitting an application to the Board.

Action: Marty Connell moved to fund the MTIP program at \$25,000 for one year under a Memorandum of Understanding between MBRCT and the Department of Commerce. Paul Tuss seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carried.

III. Presentations

The Board heard presentations in the following order. After each presentation, the Board asked presenter(s) a series of questions.

#08-19 Zero Voltage Switching Research
Gene Kuntz – ILX Lightwave Corporation - Bozeman
Year 1 - \$159,673
Presenter: Gene Kuntz, Manager of Engineering

#08-26 Innovative Commercialization Strategies for Clean Coal and Geologic Carbon Sequestration in Montana
David Bowen – Montana State University - Bozeman
Year 1 - \$491,308
Presenters: David Bowen, MSU; Lee Spangler, Program Director, Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership

#08-42 Developing Anti-Icing Liquids with Montana Agricultural Byproducts
Xianming Shi – Montana State University - Bozeman
Year 1 - \$ 96,818 Note: 18-month project divided into two stages
Year 2 - \$ 53,182
Presenter: Xianming Shi

#08-03 A Proposal to Develop a Non-Invasive Clinical Device that is Effective in Clearing Persistent Infections in Prosthetic Knee Implants
Bruce McLeod – Montana State University - Bozeman
Year 1 – \$ 74,442
Year 2 - \$72,042
Presenter: Bruce McLeod

IV. Working Lunch Tour – 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

The Board traveled to All American Pharmaceutical for a tour of the facility hosted by its founder and owner, Jeff Golini.

V. Presentations (continued)

#08-56 Conduct and Complete Research and Development of a Novel and Sustainable Technology for Making Cellulosic Biobutanol Advanced Biofuel from Montana Wheat Straw
Manfred Biermann – Resodyn Corporation - Butte
Year 1 - \$202,500
Year 2 - \$202,500
Presenters: Manfred Biermann and Larry Farrar

#08-14 LiteOwl: customizable UAVs for Resource Management Applications
John Bognar – Anasphere - Bozeman
Year 1 - \$176,000
Year 2 - \$141,000
Presenters: John Bognar, Anasphere, and representatives from HyPerspectives

#08-47 Remote Sensor for Methamphetamine Lab Detection
Peter Roos – Montana State University – Bozeman
Year 1 - \$101,758
Year 2 - \$ 96,242
Presenter: Wm. Randall Babbitt

IV. Discuss and take action on the question of withdrawing funding

#07-40 Heat Exchanger Fabrication Technology Development
Gloyd Simmons – MSE Technology Applications Inc. – Butte
Year 1 - \$100,000

The Board discussed this project, which was awarded funding by the Board in June 2006 and has been unable to obtain the required matching funds.

Action: Paul Tuss moved that staff notify the PI that if the matching funds for the project are not in place by June 15th, 2007, the Board will withdraw funding from the proposal. Jim Davison seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carried.

V. Proposals – Review and Discussion

Discussions regarding the presentations heard during the meeting and other proposals submitted March 1st were held. The following projects were discussed in additional detail.

#08-23 Standardized Heavy Duty Tow Vehicle Platform, Rob Cook, Intercontinental Truck Body
Rob Cook - Intercontinental Truck Body – Conrad
Year 1 - \$442,800

#08-47 Remote Sensor for Methamphetamine Lab Detection
Peter Roos - Montana State University – Bozeman
Year 1 - \$101,759
Year 2 - \$96,242

#08-03 A Proposal to Develop a Non-Invasive Clinical Device that is Effective in Clearing Persistent Infections in Prosthetic Knee Implants
Bruce McLeod – Montana State University – Bozeman
Year 1 – 74,442
Year 2 - \$72,042

#08-19 Zero Voltage Switching Research
Gene Kuntz – ILX Lightwave Corporation – Bozeman
Year 1 – 159,673

#08-56 Conduct and Complete Research and Development of a Novel and Sustainable Technology for Making Cellulosic Biobutanol Advanced Biofuel from Montana Wheat Straw

Manfred Biermann – Resodyn Corporation – Butte

Year 1 – \$202,500

Year 2 - \$202,500

#08-14 LiteOwl: Customizable UAVs for Resource Management Applications

John Bognar – Anasphere, Inc. – Bozeman

Year 1 - \$176,000

Year 2 - \$141,000

#08-42 Developing Anti-Icing Liquids with Montana Agricultural Byproducts

Xianming Shi - Montana State University – Bozeman

Year 1 - \$96,818

Year 2 - \$53,182

#08-26 Innovative Commercialization Strategies for Clean Coal and Geologic Carbon Sequestration in Montana

David Bowen – Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership – Montana State University – Bozeman

Year 1 - \$491,308

The Board requested staff to contact the PI to determine if the project could be completed with \$156,753 from the Board, with the remainder of the funding coming from an increase in matching funds.

#08-15 Research, Development, Test and Evaluation of Adelos System

Alex Philip – TerraEchos, Inc. – Missoula

Year 1 - \$299,973

Year 2 - \$224,930

Board consensus to consider funding at \$200,000 per year

VI. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Youngberg, Chairman